

## Maintenance Innovation State of the Practice

**Maintenance Innovation:** Noncommercial Licenses for Commercial Vehicle Operators

**Description:** Drivers of commercial vehicles must generally possess a commercial drivers license (CDL). States, at their discretion, may exempt drivers performing certain functions within the driver's home state in accordance with [federal regulations](#).

**Requester Name/Agency:** Steven Sibley, Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

**Date of Request:** October 25, 2023

**Query:** Which state reported the use of a noncommercial license by agency CDL operators that does not allow the holder to drive commercially or out of state?



(Source: Colorado Department of Motor Vehicles.)

### Summary of Responses:

These state transportation agency respondents require a CDL:

- California
- Connecticut
- Indiana
- Ohio

The *Maryland DOT* respondent reported that the agency considered allowing intrastate CDL drivers to have a noncommercial license but did not implement the practice. Maryland [Motor Vehicle Administration policy](#) states:

If you are a Maryland non-commercial driver operating a commercial motor vehicle within the State of Maryland (intrastate) and the vehicle weighs 10,001 and up to 26,000 pounds, you are required to have a valid MCSA-5876 - Medical Examiner Certificate in your possession. If you were licensed before October 1, 2003, have a preexisting medical condition, and the onset was prior to 10/01/03, you will be exempt from the requirement for a 20-year period, provided your preexisting condition does not worsen. You are still required to maintain a DOT physical.

The *New York DOT* respondent noted that while such a practice may be a legally viable option, the agency does not wish to explore it given the potential liability.

### References

[Code of Federal Regulations, section 383.3\(d\) Exception for farmers, firefighters, emergency response vehicle drivers, and drivers removing snow and ice](#), National Archives, May 30, 2024.

[Intrastate Non-Commercial Driver Information](#), Maryland Department of Transportation Motor Vehicle Administration, undated.